Delta Protection Commission Meeting September 15, 2022

AGENDA ITEM 8: Executive Director Report

Prepared by: Bruce Blodgett Presented by: Bruce Blodgett

Requested Action: Receive Executive Director report

Type of Action: Information Only

Commission Update

Delta Conveyance Project: The Draft EIR for the project was released on July 27, 2022, for a 90-day comment period closing October 27, 2022. The project EIS is not yet published, and the release date is unknown. A staff report will provide more detail at the meeting.

Commission Staffing: The Commission will be seeking to fill the vacant (June 2022) Public Information Officer position with a highly skilled financial officer position. Commission staff completed interviews in July for the vacant (May 2022) Associate Governmental Program Analyst position and we were unable to make a job offer. We have reconfigured this position to work on a split of communications, human resources, and accounting support. Both vacancies will be advertised soon. California Natural Resources Agency is discussing the consolidation of the administrative support functions for the several boards and commissions, and staff will engage to find the best solution possible for the administration of the office.

Delta Heritage Forum: The Commission will be hosting the fifth annual Forum, a free, full-day event focused on efforts to preserve and tell Delta stories, opportunities for partnerships and collaboration, and networking, on Thursday, November 3 in Walnut Grove.

National Heritage Area (NHA) Management Plan Advisory Committee: The next NHA Advisory Committee will be meeting on Thursday, October 6 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. The agenda for the meeting will be available in late September.

Office Move: The Commission will be moving to a smaller suite in the same building in the next few months.

Commission Land Use Comments: The chart below lists the land use comment letters prepared by Commission staff from July 9, 2022 through September 8, 2022.

Land Use Projects – Comment Letters July 9, 2022 through September 8, 2022

County	Project Description	Authority	Primary (P) or Secondary (S) Zone or D (Delta- wide)	Comments
Multiple	North Delta Drought Salinity Barriers, U.S. Army Corps (USACE) Permit	Non- jurisdictional project that may affect Delta resources	P, S	Encourage the USACE to evaluate potential project impacts to levees, local water supply, and recreation in Steamboat and Miner Sloughs.
Multiple	West False River Drought Salinity Barriers Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)	Non- jurisdictional project that may affect Delta resources	S	Concerned about potential project impacts on water quality, recreation, and flood protection in the Delta. Cumulative impacts analysis should include the North Delta Drought Salinity Barriers.
Contra	Contra Costa County Housing Element Notice of Preparation	Jurisdictional project, Delta Trail	P, S	Suggest that the DEIR assess and mitigate for potential loss of agricultural land, increased traffic, and impacts to land in the primary zone. Advise County to review Land Use and Resources Management Plan (LURMP) policies related to agriculture and land use. Hope to work on possible locations for trails and potentially incorporate these into the Delta Trail.

County	Project Description	Authority	Primary (P) or Secondary (S) Zone or D (Delta- wide)	Comments
San Joaquin	Development Title Text Amendment, Chapter 9-1080 Agricultural Mitigation (PA- 2200189 (TA)	Jurisdictional project	P, S	Support TA Option A, including definition of a Qualifying Entity (QE) that ensures that the QE would be a third party and that there could be more than one QE; and support for farmland mitigation of at least a 1:1 ratio.
Yolo	Tentative Parcel Map for Dwyer Property	Jurisdictional project	Р	Support projects that maintain the agricultural economy. Advise County to review LURMP policies related to agriculture.
Yolo	Yolo County Zoning Regulations Amendments Title 11	Non- jurisdictional project that may affect Delta resources	P, S	Support projects that provide wireless access in the Delta. Telecommunication facilities, solar energy systems, and energy storage facilities should be permitted in a manner that avoids or minimizes conversion of agricultural land. Where conversion of agricultural land is unavoidable, loss of agricultural land should be mitigated to the fullest extent feasible.

<u>Upcoming Events:</u> Delta public events continue to return, along with the regular Delta agency meetings.

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SEPTEMBER

September 15 – Delta Independent Science Board Meeting, Virtual <u>deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-isb/meetings</u>

September 17 – Coastal Cleanup Day, Multiple locations http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html

September 18 – Wines of Clarksburg, Clarksburg http://www.clarksburglibraryfriends.org/wines-of-clarksburg-2022

September 22 and 23 – Delta Stewardship Council Meeting deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings

September 23 – California Native American Day, Sacramento californianativeamericanday.com

September 24 – Heart of Oakley Festival, Oakley heartofoakleyfestival.com

September 25 to October 1 – Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Week

OCTOBER

October 6 – National Heritage Area Management Plan Advisory Committee Meeting, Virtual delta.ca.gov/NHA

October 6 – Science for Communities Workshop deltacouncil.ca.gov/events

October 7 – Rio Vista Bass Derby, Rio Vista bassfestival.com

October 8 – Downtown Brentwood Coalition's Annual Oktoberfest, Brentwood www.brentwooddowntown.com/upcoming-events

October 13 – Delta Independent Science Board Meeting deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-isb/meetings

October 14 and 20 – Advancing Interdisciplinary Research Training deltacouncil.ca.gov/events

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October 16 – Strong Roots Celebrating Clarksburg's Multicultural Heritage, Clarksburg www.eventbrite.com/e/strong-roots-celebrating-clarksburgs-multi-cultural-heritage-tickets-403720497877

October 22 – Filipino American History Month Celebration, Stockton www.kommunityhub.org/fahm-fest-2022

October 26 – Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Board Meeting deltaconservancy.ca.gov/updates-events

October 27 and 28 – Delta Stewardship Council Meeting deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings

October 29 – Golden Harvest Parade and Festival, Sacramento goldenharvestparade.org

Late October/early November DPAC meeting TBD

NOVEMBER

November 2 to 4 – Delta Independent Science Board Meeting <u>deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-isb/meetings</u>

November 3 – Delta Heritage Forum delta.ca.gov/NHA

November 8 – Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee Meeting deltacouncil.ca.gov/dpiic/meetings

November 8 and 9 – Delta Harmful Algal Blooms Workshop, Sacramento/Virtual <u>deltacouncil.ca.gov/events</u>

November 13 – Clarksburg Country Run, Clarksburg www.clarksburgcountryrun.com

November 17 and 18 – Delta Stewardship Council Meeting deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings